In the Claims

Please replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application with the following list of claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for inducing [[an]] a Th2-biased antigen specific immune response comprising:

administering to a subject in need thereof an antigen and a Th2-immunostimulatory nucleic acid, [[at least six nucleotides in length]] 6-100 nucleotides in length [[and having a phosphorothioate backbone linkage]] and lacking a CpG dinucleotide, a poly T motif, or a poly G motif, in an amount effective to produce [[an]] a Th2 antigen specific immune response when the Th2-immunostimulatory nucleic acid is administered mucosally or dermally.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the subject is administered the antigen after the Th2-immunostimulatory nucleic acid.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the subject is administered the antigen before the Th2-immunostimulatory nucleic acid.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the subject is administered the antigen and the Th2-immunostimulatory nucleic acid simultaneously.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the Th2-immunostimulatory nucleic acid is delivered to the mouth, skin or eye.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising administering a therapeutic agent to the subject.

7.-9. (Cancelled)

10. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the therapeutic agent is a Th2 adjuvant.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein the Th2 adjuvant is [[selected from the group consisting of adjuvants that create a depot effect, adjuvants that stimulate the immune system, and adjuvants that create a depot effect and stimulate the immune system and mucosal adjuvants]] alum or cholera toxin.

12.-15. (Cancelled)

16. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the therapeutic agent is a cytokine.

17. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the Th2-immunostimulatory nucleic acid is formulated in a form selected from the group consisting of a liquid solution, a powder, a microparticle, and a bioadhesive polymer.

18. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the Th2-immunostimulatory nucleic acid is administered by a route selected from the group consisting of oral, intranasal, vaginal, rectal, intra-ocular, and by inhalation.

19. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the Th2-immunostimulatory nucleic acid is administered by a route selected from the group consisting of intradermal, intraepidermal and transdermal.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the Th2-biased antigen specific immune response is a systemic immune response.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the Th2-biased antigen specific immune response is a mucosal immune response.

22. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the Th2-immunostimulatory nucleic acid is administered using a delivery system selected from the group consisting of a needleless delivery system, a scarification delivery system, and a tyne delivery system.

23. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the antigen is administered using a delivery system selected from the group consisting of a needleless delivery system, a scarification delivery system, and a tyne delivery system.

24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein the therapeutic agent is selected from the group consisting of an anti-viral agent, an anti-bacterial agent, an anti-parasitic agent, an anti-fungal agent, and a cancer medicament.

25. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the antigen is selected from the group of antigens consisting of viral antigens, fungal antigens, bacterial antigens, parasitic antigens, and cancer antigens.

26. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the subject has not been exposed to an Th1 immunostimulatory nucleic acid prior to administration of the Th2 immunostimulatory nucleic acid.

27. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the subject is not experiencing a Th1 mediated disorder at the time of administration.

28. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the antigen is not conjugated to the Th2 immunostimulatory nucleic acid.

29. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the antigen is not a self antigen.

30. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the antigen is not an extracellular antigen.

31. (Currently Amended) A method for inducing [[an]] a Th2-biased antigen specific immune response comprising:

administering to a subject an antigen and a Th2-immunostimulatory nucleic acid, [[at least six nucleotides in length]] 6-100 nucleotides in length [[and having a phosphorothioate backbone linkage]] and lacking a CpG dinucleotide, a poly T motif, or a poly G motif, in an amount effective to produce [[an]] a Th2 antigen specific immune response when the Th2-immunostimulatory nucleic acid is administered parenterally.

32.-51. (Cancelled)

52. (Original) The method of claim 31, wherein the subject has not been exposed to an Th1 immunostimulatory nucleic acid prior to administration of the Th2 immunostimulatory nucleic acid.

53.-101. (Cancelled)

102. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[101]] 1, wherein the [[oligonucleotide]] Th2-immunostimulatory nucleic acid is associated with a cationic lipid or a sterol.

103. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 102, wherein the Th2-biased antigen specific immune response comprises induction of an IgA response.

104. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the Th2-immunostimulatory nucleic acid is 6-50 nucleotides in length.

105. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the Th2-immunostimulatory nucleic acid is 15-50 nucleotides in length.

106. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the Th2-immunostimulatory nucleic acid is a stabilized nucleic acid molecule.

107. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the Th2-immunostimulatory nucleic acid and the antigen are administered mucosally.

108. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the Th2-immunostimulatory nucleic acid and the antigen are administered orally, intranasally or intrarectally.

109. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the subject has a Th1 mediated disease.

110. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the subject has autoimmune disease.

111. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein parasitic antigen is derived from an extracellular parasite or an obligate intracellular parasite.